

The Dental Assistant



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"OTHERS IN WHITE"

There are tales that are told about nurses,
On call and so willing to do
Every deed that will help toward the road to good health,
Or ease the way, when life is most through.

These faithful good women are loved
For the deeds they regard as so slight;
But my little tale, that has never been told,
Concerns another good woman in white.

We call her the dental assistant,
She's often without cross, stripe or badge;
But, Oh, what she knows of us humans,
Our impulses, both good and bad.

Have you ever observed her with children,
Her patience when they are upset,
Her keen realization of the parent's distress,
Her ability to handle the task to be met?

Have you noticed her smile that radiates cheer.
Shows sincere interest, understanding and truth,
Inspires confidence and drives away fear?
It's a smile for all—old age or youth.

The panicky child, the nervous man,
The fussy old ladies and those who won't pay;
She serves them all and puts them at ease—
It's routine work—just part of her day.

She never forgets the code of her calling,
"Efficiency, service and loyalty true
Education in order to help him whom she serves"—
A motto to guide us in all things we do.

Of course there are failures in this chosen field,
But let all of us strive to do all things right,
To live up to our code and do all we can
To be worthily called—"The Others in White."

MARION WEBSTER.



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THE ASSISTANT IN THE OFFICE OF THE ORTHODONTIST

By J. A. SALZMANN, D.D.S., New York, N. Y.

THE duties of the dental nurse in the office of the orthodontist, as well as in the office of the general dental practitioner, may be divided into the following three distinct lines of endeavor:

1. Office management.
2. Relationship to patient and doctor.
3. Chairside and laboratory assisting.

Office Management:

A. APPOINTMENTS.

Orthodontia is an important service when viewed from the standpoint of health and development, mental hygiene or esthetic appearance of the patient. It is not of a truly emergency character. No one has been known to suffer an acute attack of mal-occlusion. The patient may delay the beginning of treatment for a day, a week, a month, or at times even a few months, without suffering any marked injury. Sometimes such delay is advised by the orthodontist himself. Human inertia expresses itself in a natural tendency to delay treatment. For this reason it is inadvisable to postpone initial orthodontic appointments when requested by patients. The patient calling for an appointment for the first time should be granted one, even if it involves considerable inconvenience to the orthodontist or perhaps to the assistant herself. Once the initial appointment is made, it is a good policy to write the patient a note stating "This is to confirm your appointment with Dr. on, " or "We have reserved (date) as your appointment with Dr. for orthodontic treatment." Such a note will give the patient a greater sense of responsibility in keeping the appointment. It is wise to grant a patient already under treatment, their request to change the time or date of an appointment, if at all possible. Charges for broken appointments in orthodontia are hard to collect. If the dentist does

general work besides orthodontics, it is better practice to devote specific afternoons or mornings to orthodontic appointments and not to mix adult with child patients. Treatment of adults and children together, involves the sterilization and use of a great number of different instruments and upsets the general routine of the office. Furthermore, as we shall bring out later, children will be more co-operative when they see other children being treated in the same office. Treatment of adults sometimes involves great pain to the patient and may frighten the child if he hears an outcry.

B. RECORD KEEPING.

There are many types of orthodontic record systems in use today. The merit of any system usually depends on the care with which it is followed. Orthodontic treatment involves the keeping of many additional records besides those employed in general practice. The following items are important as patient records:

1. General physical examination by physician, noting especially childhood diseases; presence or absence of tonsils and adenoids; endocrine deficiencies; congenital deformities; deformities of the face, teeth and jaws, due to accidents or diseases; correlation of growth, age and weight; general nutritional state; principal items in the child's diet; habits of general and special correlation to the orthodontic condition, such as standing and walking posture, sleeping posture, breathing, muscular habits, keeping of fingers or foreign objects in the mouth, etc.
2. X-ray study of teeth and full lateral and anterior roentgenographic view of the face, palatal plates, etc.
3. Photographs, charts, record models, diagnostic maps.
4. Financial arrangement and record of payments.

5. "Thank you" letter to referring dentist.
6. Letter of confirmation of treatment to parents.
7. Letters during progress of case.
8. Letters of non-co-operation of patient.
9. Birth date for sending greeting card.

Relation to Patient and Doctor:

The dental assistant who knows how to handle children is an indispensable asset to the orthodontist. If the confidence and co-operation of the child is not obtained the case is lost. The child must like the orthodontist and the assistant. He should look forward to his visits.

A. RECEIVING THE CHILD PATIENT.

The method of receiving child patients should be in keeping with their age and mental development. Do not follow instructions blindly in this regard but use your own judgment. Each child must be handled as an individual and not by rule-of-thumb. The wrong approach by the dental nurse will affect the attitude, and may undermine the confidence of the patient. This is just as true of the adult patient as it is of the child. Great care should be taken not to "insult the intelligence of the child." A common criticism of most books for children, is that they are written with the assumption by the author that he is dealing with halfwits. Be especially tactful in dealing with the precocious child; the child who has been told ever so often how bright he is. Remember to address children by name, it makes them feel important. The question is often asked, should the mother be allowed in the operating room. This can best be answered by noting the effect that the presence of the mother has on the child. If the child is well behaved, and the behavior of the child is noticeable due to the ability of the mother to manage the child properly, there is no special reason for keeping the mother out of the operating room, other than the personal inclination of the orthodontist. Many mothers feel that they are entitled to a little con-

versation with the doctor in return for the fee paid for treatment. However, if you do not keep chairs for visitors in the operating room, you will find that the mother will not be inclined to stay too long. While she may come in with the child, she will usually leave and wait in the reception room until the treatment is completed. With the "spoilt" child or the child who is hard to manage, it is best to keep the mother out of the operating room. Children who are hard to manage, will behave more badly in the presence of the mother who acts as a sympathetic audience. Remember, unless a child is weak-minded, he will not continue to cry just for the sake of crying. Crying is the weapon of the child who knows that he will gain his point thereby. If you ignore the crying it will soon stop. No child is foolish enough to cry for his own amusement. If he feels that you mean business he is more apt to co-operate.

B. GAINING THE CHILD PATIENT'S CONFIDENCE.

Gaining the child's confidence, as we have already said, is important and easy to accomplish, provided you strike the right approach in breaking down the natural resistance of the child to new situations. It may be well for us to analyze the basic psychology responsible for the child's behavior in the dental office. The well-behaved child is the product of proper adjustment in its physical and mental make-up. No child who is ill or in a sub-normal state of health can be expected to be well-behaved. Such children usually are not well-behaved. Furthermore, the well-behaved child is properly adjusted in its home and outside environments. He has a feeling of well being. He knows that he is loved by his parents and can rely on them for protection. In short, he has a feeling of security. Not so with the child who is not well-behaved. Usually such children are not in the best physical condition. They come from homes where parental misunderstandings and strife are more or less common. Either one or both of the parents may be exerting a harmful psycholog-

influence on the child. The child may therefore be maladjusted because of intrinsic or extrinsic forces which are responsible for a feeling of insecurity. Conversely, if the parents are too indulgent, the child feels subconsciously that he cannot rely on them. The feeling of security is in its final analysis, the residuum of the basic law of "self-preservation" or, as it is sometimes known, "the survival instinct." The extent to which a person satisfies this instinct is in a great measure the determining factor in the make-up of their personality. The greater the sense of security, the better are we adjusted to our environment and the less prominent is our sense of *fear*. In its simplest terms, fear is the emotion most responsible for the problems arising in the handling of child patients. Thus the lack of the sense of security is a precursor of the emotions of fear. Our problem in handling children, may therefore be said to resolve itself into the elimination of the emotion of fear, by the substitution of a feeling of security. We can help the child to meet the new situations that may tend to arouse fear in the dental office, and help him in overcoming fear by a tactful approach.

Our energy in handling the child patients should not be directed towards prohibitory admonishments, by telling them "Don't do this" and "don't do that", but rather by substituting other emotions for the undesirable ones of fear and insecurity. If we study the child carefully, we shall find him pointing the way for us towards pleasurable emotions that should be substituted for the emotion of fear. For example, in a boy who may be interested in baseball, stamp collecting, or in some particular new toy, a discussion concerning this activity may be substituted for fear, by showing him that you "speak his language." Another method is to direct the interest of the child into non-fear producing features of the subject feared. For example, allow the child to handle and examine various instruments. Arouse the child's curiosity in his surroundings. Appeal to them for co-operation by calling their attention to the benefits that may

be derived as a result of such co-operation. *Do not talk too much.* Let well enough alone, once the child is in a co-operative mood. Do not reassure the child by telling him every few minutes that it will not hurt. Such reassurance tends to set the child on edge. He will be expecting to be hurt, and may henceforth associate pain with all dental operations. The emotional response aroused in children is, to a great extent, dependent on the response of other children or adults. If one child sees another hurt a finger slightly without crying, he too, will not cry even if the finger is more severely injured. If a child watches another receiving dental treatment without crying, he too, will not cry and will undergo even more severe pain.

Factors to be remembered in handling children:

1. Treat the child as an individual. Do not use baby-talk or other affected speech.
2. Call children by their first name. Greet them before greeting the parent when they enter the office.
3. Lead the conversation to the particular interests of the child.
4. Show a genuine interest in the child's welfare, especially with regard to the teeth.
5. Tell them of the splendid co-operation of other children.
6. Show them before and after treatment photographs.
7. The child should be the center of attention. All energy, effort and attention should be directed to the child.
8. The treatment should be performed with dispatch, although with no appearance of hurrying. Do not try to "get rid of them."
9. Do not keep children waiting too long. It produces restless patients.
10. Impress the child and parent with the importance of keeping appointments promptly.

C. RELATION TO THE DENTIST.

Speak in a modulated voice, always. Do not ask unnecessary questions (Example: length of time of treatments, relate ex-

perience or "make talk", while the patient is in the chair or in the operating room. Do not make it appear that the welfare of the patient is not uppermost in your mind. Your job is to assist.

Suggestions for chairside and laboratory assisting:— (1) Sterilization and

preparation of instruments and materials.

(2) Models—records, progress. (3) Appliances, care of removed appliances. (4) Ordering materials. (5) Pouring and trimming models. (6) Keeping models in order and care of models.

576 Fifth Avenue.

WE—OURSELVES

By ALICE L. DAVIS, *Treas., Kansas State D. A. Assn.*

Given before the 1935 Annual Meeting.

SOME dentists prefer an assistant who is young and pretty; others prefer one of advanced age who is homely and unattractive, but all agree that the first consideration is one who has beautiful teeth." "Some dentists say they like a young woman who is tall and slim, others aver they like one who is short and stout—" Be she high school or college graduate, married or single, a good conversationalist, alone in the world, or experienced as a dental assistant, she must necessarily be interested in anything pertaining to the best interests of the dental profession. Many of my ideas have been better formed since I read the book "Doctor, Build a Better Practice" from which I have taken the opening paragraph. But whatever else, she should be clean and neat, for the dentist usually prefers an assistant who not only is clean but gives the appearance of cleanliness.

Posture is neither last nor least. It may well be placed first. When you open the door to greet the first patient, she probably thinks, "What, tired already?" Posture has so much to do with all the rest—and can spoil all your other efforts. Be at ease, not stiff, yet erect and well-balanced. Alert, not forever leaning on something; and quiet. Can you walk about quietly and quickly without tiptoeing? A correct posture helps keep away that tired feeling at 5:00 p.m. It helps the expression on your face—for there is facial posture, too. When we slump bodily, we slump emotionally also. You should sit properly at your desk, backbones are made to hold

us erect from neck to waistline. Shoulders back, breathe deeply and easily — keep your mental and physical posture up to par. You deserve it.

A clean and unrumpled uniform does much toward an assistant's personal appearance. Not only that, but it does a lot toward encouraging the patient's confidence in the doctor's practice and our confidence in ourselves. However, the uniform should be one suitable for a dental office, not for a beauty parlor or restaurant. There is a certain dignity and professional appearance to be upheld. Your uniform should fit as though it were made for you, not someone larger or smaller by several sizes. Furthermore, a tight uniform wrinkles more easily, and you need freedom and ease of movement. Frayed uniforms may be in style in your town, but I question it, and have an equal number of buttons and buttonholes. Odors from laboratory work and medicine used, cling to your uniform which makes it necessary to change frequently although a uniform appears fresh. Have a trim-fitting, simple-patterned, long or elbow-length-sleeved uniform, with a rather close-fitting neck.

What is above your uniform? Advertisements make much of "dirty face", "cosmetic skin", and the "lovely complexion". Really, there is much more to it than advertising. A clean face is a necessity, not a luxury or an occasional habit. Use a moderate amount of make-up. You may use none if you prefer or your dentist prefers. Most of us look

better if we use some make-up. An excess is in poor taste anytime, anywhere. Have your teeth well brushed and cleaned frequently. Your dentist's ability is frequently judged by your appearance. Incidentally you might try placing a pleasant expression on your face, even though you feel as cheerless as the patient acts. Perhaps I should say you *must* be cheerful and friendly, but not fawning and unreal. It takes the "wind" out of Mrs. Smith's "sails" to greet her cordially when she has a nice frown prepared to deliver to you. To go on up, hair is very important. Comb it, even at the expense of the new wave. Clean, well-dressed hair is nicest. Consult your beautician for the most attractive hairdress for your type. One you may wear in the office as well as after office hours. Curls if you wish, but keep them in control. A cap is convenient and attractive, and helps give a neat appearance. However, it is usually conspicuous to wear a cap in a small town. If you have a neck trim, be sure to keep it so.

Hands—how very important, for they probably do as much of our day's work as any part of us. Into the patient's mouth, in the lab, plasters, mopping the floor, oils, dirty instruments, door knobs,—the duties are endless. Patients are much more particular about the cleanliness of your fingers than the cleanliness of their own. You must not be careless. Any dirty hands in the office should be those of the patient. Smelly hand lotions are not good, and may taste as bad or worse than they smell. Remember, hands are frequently in a patient's mouth and right under his nose. Clean religiously under your nails and brush thoroughly around the cuticle. Polish is all right if it is natural in color and unbroken, since it gives a trim and well-kept appearance. Remove stains from your hands and keep them smooth and soft with a good cream or lotion. Refrain from wearing showy rings or bracelets.

And below your uniform an important part of you, your feet. To a grand, formal party you would not go wearing your

oldest bedroom slippers—but you sometimes are as thoughtless and careless of your office shoes and hose. Discarded Sunday shoes were never meant to go to the office. Buy a white shoe of simple style—low or medium heel, and comfortable width. Needless to say, such a shoe is more comfortable and does much to ward off that tired feeling at the end of the day. White shoes require frequent polishing—and are not good unless they are white. White hose look much nicer with your white uniform and shoes. It takes only a few minutes to change, and repays you many times over. A laboratory apron saves lots of laundering—stains and accumulations which may get on while you are doing laboratory work. Moreover, it keeps your uniform much more fresh and clean for your last patient. There is no reason why the last patient should have any less courtesy than the first. Cleaning your office in an apron or yesterday's uniform saves a great deal too, for most of us have at least a part of our janitor work to do.

Why all of this—simply so you will not be, as Ed Wynn says, "Graham, my aunt is a mess. She is simply a mess." What is worse, he said recently that she was the "same as ever, still a mess." I have touched only on the high spots and made some confessions I hope you did not recognize. I have seen you when you were at your best—and a few times when you were not at your best. I've been the same way at the wrong times; no need to mention the time your most particular, or favorite, patient came when you were "a mess". Let it be understood we resolved to be much more careful and particular in the future, to live up to a standard set in an article in the *Dental Assistant*—"an inborn hatred of disorder and uncleanness in any form; and an insatiable desire for knowledge and culture . . . and she conducts herself as a professional woman *always*, in any surroundings pertaining to dentistry."

Finley Bldg., Hiawatha, Kansas.

"CAST DOWN YOUR BUCKETS WHERE YOU ARE"

By CARL W. JOHNSON, D.D.S., Los Angeles, California.

I SHALL appropriate to my comments the theme of one of the famous speeches of the great Negro educator, Booker T. Washington. This theme is illustrated by a story of a ship which had been lost at sea. A friendly vessel was sighted and the signal sent out, "Water, we die of thirst." The answer came back, "Cast down your buckets where you are." Again the distressed ship sent out the signal, and again the answer came back, "Cast down your buckets where you are." Even the third and fourth time the same appeal was sent out. Each time there came back the same answer. The bewildered captain of the distressed ship ordered that the admonition be obeyed. Buckets were cast over the side and when they were drawn up they were filled with fresh water. They had been drifting in that region where the Amazon sends great currents of fresh water for many miles out into the sea.

For a certain period of time past the profession of Dentistry has, in common with many other lines of endeavor, experienced a certain degree of distress. The organized leadership of the profession, and the individual member as well, have looked longingly at the horizon for some apparition which should bring relief. No doubt if that apparition does appear it will not be in the form of some magic scheme or formula but in the form of an admonition to develop those assets which are near at hand.

One of those assets which the Dental Association, as an organization, has overlooked in this community is that young woman who has had an important part not only in introducing efficiency and scrupulous cleanliness into the dental office but in introducing personality as well. I refer to the dental assistant.

Her demeanor, her diplomacy, and her personality in general have come to influence to a remarkable degree the evalua-

tion of the dental profession by the public which it serves. Nor does this apply only to the dentist who maintains an assistant in his office; it applies equally well to the one who does not.

Public evaluation of the profession is, in the last analysis, a group evaluation and is qualified almost as much by those who are in any capacity accessory to the actual practice of dentistry as it is by the dentist himself. Our realization of this truth is well illustrated by the way in which we indulge in some of our questionable economies. On those occasions when we yield to the urge to buy something which is much cheaper and "almost as good" as an article which carries a trade mark which has always stood for quality and integrity, we are careful to confine such "economies" to those things which do not actually enter into or remain a part of our finished restorations. We recognize, therefore, the public influence of a manufacturer even though he is entirely unknown to the public. How much more important is it that the official organizations of dentistry take recognition of the assistant who comes into most direct contact with the public.

In advocating that the Dental Association concern itself directly with the dental assistant I mean specifically that the local association of organized dentistry in any community should officially recognize and interest itself in the Dental Assistant's Association in that community.

While the American Dental Association has formally recognized the national association of the dental assistants, the Los Angeles Dental Assistant's Association has carried on for eight years with practically no official recognition or interest locally. Therefore, we have left an asset to develop itself without even showing an interest in cultivating that asset.

It is not unduly flattering to us who

have been involved with the educational mechanisms of the Dental Association to be forced to admit that agencies outside of dentistry had to direct our attention to the fact that a great service could be rendered to dentistry by assisting an organization which carries on for the sole purpose of better qualifying its members to serve and uphold the standards of their employers, namely the members of the dental profession.

It was my privilege, at this late date, to appear before the Los Angeles Dental Assistant's Association as a representative of the Division of Educational Courses Committee of the Southern California State Dental Association. I feel that the observations I made are well worth recording.

I witnessed a business like organization in action; an organization which reflected a high type of leadership and idealism; an attentive audience being instructed in the physics of phonation and its practical application to the development of a pleasant and dignified speaking voice as a business asset. I learned that for eight years this organization had been endeavoring to further the education of its members in matters of refinement of speech and conduct and in general to develop concepts of ethics and deportment which should reflect credit on the dental profession as it is evaluated by the public, as well as to develop in them a greater technical efficiency at the chair and in the laboratory. In short, I left with the impression that I had observed an organization of a high order.

I now vaguely recall that I have heard sporadic criticism some time in the past

to the effect that these girls were wasting their time with technical considerations which were of no practical value. It is obvious that they are not wasting their time in the matter of public relations and if there is any truth to the criticism regarding their efforts regarding technical instruction then the fault is not theirs but ours. They have been, and are now, most willing to accept our assistance and advice but we have left them to try to anticipate our needs as well as to try to prepare themselves to fulfill them.

The Division of Educational Courses Committee is at this time developing certain educational facilities for the Los Angeles Dental Assistant's Association and it should continue to do so. In so doing, it should feel free to call upon any member of organized dentistry to assist in instructing the members of the Assistant's Association. And those who do instruct should frankly regard their efforts as a greater contribution to the dental profession and in consequence a greater contribution to themselves than it is to those whom they instruct.

Organized dentistry in Los Angeles has too long overlooked the opportunity to develop this asset which the Dental Assistant's Association represents and there may be other assets equally near at hand.

Therefore, it might be well if we drop our gaze now and again from the distant horizon where we seek the magic apparition and—"Cast down our buckets where we are."

(Reprinted from the Journal of the Southern California State Dental Association, May, 1936)

THINGS ARE ALL RIGHT

"Let the howlers howl, and the growlers growl, and the prowlers prowl, and the gee-gaws go it;

Behind the night there is plenty of light, and things are all right and—I know it."

TAKING OUR TEMPERATURES

By MILDRED SHOOK, Columbus, Ohio.

Given before the Columbus D. A. Assn., February 10th, 1936.

ONE of the most revealing parts of a physician's diagnosis of his patients, is the taking of temperatures. A patient may suffer a good deal of pain and he may be disturbed by many fears, but the physician does not seem much troubled if the temperature is normal. What is the temperature of our organization? Are we at the high point where our sufferings are incurable, or have we the strength that is needed to pull us through? In diagnosing our case I find:— We have the frankness of the youth of today, that says and thinks with directness. We are frank in criticism as well as positive in statements—yet underneath this frankness, is a deep and passionate earnestness, which intense conviction is stimulating and contagious. Another quality is a certain pioneering instinct. We have a broad spirit of daring to try new ways, to blaze new trails, to utilize new methods; and in this realm of thought upon our present-day problems, we are bringing a certain freshness, originality and freedom from binding prejudice that has thrown a clearer light upon them, and is awakening a new hope for their solution.

Another characteristic, is the deep seated impulse to be of service. The making of money was the great lure which started us upon our careers as dental assistants, but through our contacts in the office as well as this organization, we are not asking "How much am I going to get out of

my services?" but rather we are asking "Am I investing my life to make it count for more in this service?" We are not of the attitude that gold and silver are all, but that truth, goodness and the chance to serve to the best of our ability, is greater. Ours—as all organizations, must face objections, but through tact and patience we strive to see the other's point of view, try to avoid argument; yet we squarely meet the objection, answer it, and the difficulties do not become serious. We have attempted to make harmony out of chaos. At the start we felt like an orchestra before the conductor brings it to order. Our personalities with clashing interests and contradictory ideals, were, through organization, released into a stronghold of loyalty to our employers, an interest in advancement and the thoroughness and finish of our work. Then we can say that—We have our lives at the center, with an imaginary circle which will include the friends with which we are acquainted. Within this circle each of us cannot rightfully omit a single member. Is there anything stronger on which to build success in organization than the loyalty of such friends?

Perhaps my diagnosis, although not complete, shows a great deal of fear, aches and pains, but since our temperature is normal, I am quite sure we will pull through.

2149½ North High Street.

I MUST PAINT A PICTURE

Each morning I have a canvas
All spotless and glowing white,
And I must paint a picture
Before the coming night.

And words are my lovely colors,
And the canvas is the day,
And I must paint the picture
With the things I say.

Long Beach, Calif.

And O, if I would have it
All holy and shining fair,
I must choose my pigments
With an artist's care.

And I must paint serenely
And exquisitely blend
My colors with the soul of me
For the most perfect end!

—IRENE MOYER.

SERVICE—LOYALTY—EDUCATION—EFFICIENCY

By LINNA H. DENNY, R. N., Secty.-Treas., Nurses Bd. of Exam. & Regist. of Alabama.

Read before the Birmingham D. A. Study Club.

IT GIVES me great pleasure to be invited to speak before the Birmingham Study Club of Dental Assistants—and I must say that I feel terribly frightened when I realize what you might do to me—and how you hold all those who come to your offices in the very hollow of your hands. On the other side, when I think of the gentleness and kindness you have shown me at various times in the past—and how you have soothed my terror and revived my drooping spirits, I feel it an honor to address you. What can one say to this group of fine women? I fancy that you have had many technical lectures from men high in the dental profession. My remarks can only be general—such as one would like to present to any group of professional women who are earnestly striving to give of their best to the public, and who are eager to see their work advance along professional lines. First, allow me to congratulate you on having two national officers here in Birmingham—Mrs. Louise Dismukes, National President, and Mrs. Lucile Black, Trustee for the 4th District. This shows that the Dental Assistants in this section are highly thought of. I also find that your National Body publishes a most excellent journal, *The Dental Assistant*, and that your motto is *Service, Loyalty, Education, Efficiency*.

Beginning with *Service*—What does the public expect? Among other things, courtesy, kindness, a pleasing personal appearance. More than this, a pleasing appearance of the office. In the larger offices the maid is supposed to attend to the cleanliness—but does she? The doctor may not be sensitive to the niceties of office appearance. It has seemed to me that the dental assistant should enter the reception room every morning as if she were a stranger, and by glancing about detect the dust, the chair out of place, the unruly curtain. That she should be able to

communicate to the maid an enthusiasm for cleanliness and order. That she should see that torn and worn magazines are removed. These are minor details, but just this kind of service often attracts the desirable patient. Of the actual work, you know far better than I what the word service entails.

Loyalty to your doctor goes without question. But what about loyalty to your profession? Do you subscribe to your official Journal? Do you pay your dues promptly? Do you attend meetings and join in discussion? Do you help instead of criticize the efforts of your leaders? Every one of us has her place in an organization. If we shirk our share, the unevenness of the result is always apparent. One of the beautiful things in this world is variety of personal gifts. Even St. Paul, one of our great teachers, pointed this out when he said, "For we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office." Also—"Gifts, differing, according to the grace that is given to us." To be more specific, I see that your organization, along with many others, is concerned as to how to increase membership—how to interest members. I do not know just how you arrange your programs, but I sometimes think that the Federation of Women's Clubs sets a good example. They have a program committee with printed programs and each member takes some part at least once a year. It is much more interesting to know in advance the subject to be discussed. You might have a roll call on current topics—dental or otherwise—or a roll call relative to the subject of the program. Let each member, or group, take the principal articles from your Journal for discussion. Some member may have a special gift with children—Can she explain her secret? With the advance in dentistry, organization problems, with an occasional program of pure fun, the topics are limit-

less. Sometimes an outside person might be called in—but it is tedious to listen to lectures often. We can develop our own—so when the program chairman asks us to take our part, we should do it eagerly—with *loyalty*. It is surprising how this will react upon ourselves and give us a feeling of joy.

Education—The whole world now-a-days, seems to be crowded with students. First we must finish high school—then college with its various degrees is knocking at our door. If we do not open the door and join the throng, we are left behind, and miss much that gives us intellectual satisfaction. As dental assistants, you are at the elbow of men who study a particular branch of science. How fascinating to feel that you are studying to promote the welfare of your public, your doctor, and yourself. Or if the day's work exhausts you—and you wish a change—how pleasant to have a hobby—gardening, sewing, to rest one's soul in fine literature—or music—or any of the thousand interests that press in upon us. Teachers are required to take extension courses. We have just as good brains as the majority

of teachers. Why not take some extension work just for fun? And here let me pause to urge very seriously, the necessity of some form of life or sick benefit insurance. When I was a younger woman this did not seem such a necessity. The male relatives were supposed to take care of the women in the family. But that time is rapidly passing—and it is only by saving a little at a time that we who are in public life can hope to have social security. And by all means do not "sign on the dotted line" until some competent friend looks over the policy to see that it reads as it appears to.

Efficiency—If we keep our minds and fingers active, if we look for opportunities to give service, to be loyal, to be educated, to prepare—if ever so little—for old age, we shall become efficient without knowing how we did it. Our tasks will cease to be tasks, but will become the joy of well doing. Knowledge is always power, and we shall move along on the current of life conscious that we have not been laggards, but have taken our place honorably and have served our age and generation.

"BELIEVE IT OR NOT"

(With apologies to Ripley.)

Submitted by MARION WEBSTER, Holyoke, Mass.

John, aged 8, who was being checked on for erupting centrals, said, as he sat in the chair:

"Gee, I hope they're coming through now."

The dentist, feeling that he should lance the area, replied:

"I'm afraid we'll have to do more than hope for it, old man."

"Alright," replied Johnnie, "I'll pray for it."

Whereupon the little lad jumped down from the chair, knelt by the side of his mother, clasped his little hands in earnest supplication and in barely a whisper, said:

"Oh, God, please make my teeth come down quick. Amen."

The Doctor instructed the wife of a French carpenter how to brush her teeth properly and suggested that she get a tube of Forhans. Two days later the husband came into the office and the following conversation ensued:

Carpenter—"What's the matter, Doc—you kid my wife?"

Dentist—"Why, I don't know what you mean. What are you talking about?"

Carpenter—"My wife, she come home and tell me to get a two by four—you tell her to brush her teeth with it."

(These are actual happenings in my office—"Believe It or Not")

ENTHUSIASM

By DR. PAUL MCGEE, Waycross, Ga., *President-Elect of the Ga. State Dental Assn.*

Read before the Ga. State D. A. Assn., May 11, 1936.

THE scholars tell us that this important word in our language is derived from two Greek words that mean, "possessed by the gods" and indicates that one is gripped by a power higher than himself and beyond himself. Webster states that the word means strong excitement of feeling on behalf of a cause or subject. Our everyday use of the term carries with it all that this definition of the dictionary implies. Every worthy cause has to have its advocates, and these advocates have to have a strong conviction of the worth of the cause. The American Revolution had to have its Samuel Adams and its Patrick Henry, before it could have its Washington or its Jefferson. It took the imaginative fervor of Patrick Henry and the energetic enthusiasm of Samuel Adams to arouse the people, and by firing their imagination to get them into action. Washington with his sword, and Jefferson with his pen, could win military victories or write out the logical reasons for independence, but it took the fine enthusiasm of the advocates of resistance to England to raise armies and convene congresses. Emerson says that "nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm". This certainly is true. The spread of Christianity was the result of the enthusiasm of Paul the Apostle. The Protestant Reformation came from the enthusiasm of Martin Luther. Scotland is Presbyterian because John Knox would not rest until that was accomplished. The great Methodist Denomination grew out of the persistent preaching of John Wesley, and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union came to be a world-wide organization because one woman, Frances E. Willard, had the necessary enthusiasm. The Crusades were made possible by the enthusiastic preaching of Peter the Hermit.

Many a cause has failed because there were none who had the enduring enthusi-

asm to put it across. What would you give for a cause in which nobody believes with sufficient conviction to make him enthusiastic in pressing it? If the cause cannot arouse enthusiasm, it cannot hope to win followers, and without followers no cause can succeed. Napoleon used to say that his presence on the field of battle was worth twenty thousand men. What did he mean by this? He meant that the very sight of him awakened the enthusiasm of his soldiers so that they were literally "Possessed". They rushed into battle and fought like demons so that it was said of his army, "The Old Guard may die but it never surrenders". *Enthusiasm* presupposes imagination. The enthusiastic advocate of a cause sees in the cause what others have been unable to see. He is the first to see its possibilities, its far-reaching consequences, its influence for good, or the power that lies in its successful accomplishment. He blazes the trail to the desired end, shows how to get the wished-for result—all because he has imagination to see further than others whose eyes have not been opened. Woodrow Wilson had the imagination to see in the League of Nations an effective instrument for permanent peace, and this was the source of his enthusiasm. He wrote the Covenant and insisted upon this Concert of Free People because his vision led him to believe that this was the way out of recurring wars and endless strife among the nations of the world. In his enthusiasm he gave his life for what he thought a great cause. *Enthusiasm* is contagious. Like the measles, it spreads; it is catching. It is the ordinary means by which forces multiply themselves. It is what holds men together in the face of disaster, keeps them from discouragement when difficulties arise, lifts them over obstacles in the path. Seeing the force of enthusiasm, others join in and the group grows

because men like to belong to a going concern and they follow willingly those who believe in what they are doing. *Enthusiasm* is the source of energy. It is said of Patrick Henry that he was rather lazy and quite unsuccessful as a lawyer, but the injustice suffered by the colonists so roused his enthusiastic opposition, he became the most energetic and persistent foe of England in Virginia. *Enthusiasm* is always a result of conviction. People who believe in themselves move enthusiastically toward the accomplishment of their desires. People who believe in the cause that they advocate are willing to sacrifice and to join with others and to work for desired ends.

A discussion of this great human quality has a place on this program, because those responsible for this organization of Dental Assistants, realize just what enthusiasm means in the successful accomplishment of the objectives of this organization. Every person ought to be doing in the world the kind of work that he feels he can best do, the kind of thing that he likes most to do. He can be happy only if he thinks he can do what he is doing well, and if he thinks that what he is doing is worth while. All of us ought to feel that we are called to do what we are doing, in very much the same sense in which the preacher says he is called to preach. Surely there is a sense in which doctors are called, and lawyers, and bankers, and stenographers, and nurses, and dental assistants. If you don't believe in what you are doing, you should quit and try to get into something in which you do believe. If you can feel that here is a place where you can fit, where you can render a service, where you can minister to human needs, where you can help relieve suffering, where you can offer without stint the best that is in you, then being a Dental Assistant is for you worth while, and you will have the enthusiasm necessary to render the best service and to make a distinct success of your work. *Enthusiasm* takes the drudgery out of work. Every occupation, no matter what it is, has its drawbacks, its drudgery, the things that

you do not like to do. But if you are enthusiastic because you believe in your work, as the service to which you are really called, then even drudgery becomes easy and routine loses its irksomeness.

But the best of us sometimes lag, and enthusiasm hits a low level. How can it be restored? The Psalmist cried out, "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation". He felt that he had lost the enthusiasm of the early convert, the enthusiasm that he had once known. All of us sometime have had this experience, and have felt the need of regaining the joy we once found in our daily work. To do this we must take a long look ahead and a wide look around. The petty round of daily duties becomes tiresome and tends to lessen enthusiasm, unless we can look beyond them to the larger implications of what we are doing. If we can see in these petty duties the means to fine service and to lasting good to our fellow men, the tiresomeness of daily toil is lost in the big objectives that we have out ahead. If we can look around as well as beyond, we will find that what we are doing is quite as important and quite as necessary as what is being done by anyone else. The dentist needs his assistant. The finer her skill, the more cheerful her attitude, the more helpful her assistance, the more necessary does she become in the great chain that binds together in fruitful endeavor, all those who put service above pay and who find happiness in ministering to others, rather than in ministering to self. The right kind of enthusiasm will enable us to say with Henry Van Dyke:—

"Let me but do my work from day to day,
In field or forest, at the desk or loom,
In roaring market place or tranquil room;
Let me but find it in my heart to say,
When vagrant wishes beckon me astray,
'This is my work; my blessing, not my doom;
Of all who live I am the one by whom
This work can best be done in the right way.'
Then shall I see it not too great, nor small,
To suit my spirit and to prove my powers;
Then shall I, cheerful, greet the laboring hours,
And cheerful turn, when the long shadows fall
At eventide, to play and love and rest,
Because I know for me my work is best."

STERILIZATION OF HANDS

By MARY W. TURNER, Atlanta, Ga.

Read before the Ga. State D. A. Assn., May 12, 1936.

IN OBSERVING operations in various dental offices, I find the indifference of many doctors and assistants to the proper sterilization of their hands, appalling. Not one of these doctors or assistants would think of, and would be horrified should you suggest they use an instrument which had not been properly sterilized, yet they carry their own hands from mouth to mouth without even a thought to their proper sterilization. Certainly we should aim to give our patients 100 per cent protection. Included in that would definitely be hand sterilization. We would be shocked beyond words to hear of a physician operating without sterilizing, yet so many in our ranks ignore this fact in their own operations. Why do we feel our own need of sterilization any less important? Truly it is not a factor to be neglected or overlooked. It is a difficult matter to "absolutely" sterilize the hands, and it is fortunate that most of the bacteria of the skin are harmless. The staphylococcus epidermidis albus, however, is constantly present in the epidermis. Not only the germs of our own hands, but those in the mouth of other patients, on doors, phones, and the like which we contact, should certainly be killed in so far as possible, before we operate on that patient in our chair.

Germs abound in the epidermis, in the fissures and creases, under and around the nails, on hairs, and in the ducts of glands. Some hands are more easily sterilized than others. Hairy, creased hands are more difficult, and if your hands are so, keep that in mind and be absolutely sure you have done your best to keep them as near sterile as possible. In a prolonged operation, do not feel that because you sterilized before beginning the operation that your hands have remained sterile. The surface may be

thoroughly sterilized at the beginning of the operation and become infected later, because the germs in gland ducts are forced to the surface.

The basis of all plans of sterilization, and the most important part of any plan, although not the entire sterilization, is mechanical sterilization, which is cleansing by "scrubbing," not just washing, with soap and water. By this means, a quantity of loose epidermis is removed and with it a great number of bacteria. We are taught that before each operation we should scrub five minutes with soap and hot running water, using a brush with special attention to nails and creases. Use "hot" running water, as hot as can be borne with comfort, as hot water stimulates the sweat glands and the flow of sweat washes out the ducts. If the gland ducts are washed out by copious sweating while you sterilize, during the operation the secretion will be slight, decreasing the danger to your patient. Although we are taught that at least from three to five minutes should be spent scrubbing before each operation, I believe most of us have too full a day to spend that much time before each patient. But we can spend five minutes each morning before the first patient, and five minutes after lunch, and moderate by spending one minute scrubbing before each of the other patients, then using a sublimate corrosive solution. There are many methods of sterilization, and you should choose the one least irritating to your hands. My personal preference is the following method, because it is rapid, efficient, and reasonably non-irritating: Cleanse the hands first with soap and hot water, then use 95 per cent alcohol, rubbing well into fingers and nails. After this rinse the hands in 70 per cent alcohol containing one part to 1000 of corrosine sublimate.

Then rinse hands in sterile water. You may if you choose make your corrosive sublimate solution with sterile water in place of alcohol. The towel of course should be sterilized.

In closing may I say that perhaps the reason some dental assistants neglect this important factor, is because they have never been requested to do so by the doctor with whom they are associated. Fortunately for my patients, my doctor requests hand sterilization. But the initiative assistant will sterilize, and with ingenuity and tactfulness explain why to her doctor, and I believe most of them will approve, admire

her interest, and by tactfulness she will have the doctor operating with sterile hands. The assistant should attend to the sterilization of her doctor's hands. Those of you who find your doctor difficult to sway, if you can get him to even rinse his hands with alcohol containing corrosive sublimate after washing them, you have accomplished that much in the interest of protection. Don't forget the fact that while we are striving to give our patients 100 per cent protection, the sterilization of our hands, also comes under our own personal protection.

431 Candler Bldg.

"TALKING IT OVER"

This Department is under the supervision of EDNA M. JUSTICE,

631 Jenkins Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Greetings:

It is indeed a privilege and honor to be a member of the official family of the A. D. A. A., as Trustee for the 4th District. Along with any honor so great, most certainly come obligations of which I am well aware. These responsibilities I have cheerfully assumed, with your co-operation and support. We know that whatever is to be gained from this wonderful organization of ours, depends on each Dental Assistant and what each Assistant puts into it. A Dental Assistant should be, as her name implies, a help to the Dentist whom she serves. In each office the exact ways in which she shall be a help, must be worked out between the Dentist and the Assistant, regardless of any past experience the Assistant may have had. There must be real co-operation between the two to achieve that smoothness and efficiency so necessary to profitable and effective work.

A very wise woman, having been asked by her grand-daughter how she might be charming, said "Be PRETTY if you can, be WITTY if you must, but be AGREEABLE if it kills you." This is a very good creed for all of us as DENTAL ASSISTANTS.

LUCILE BLACK, Trustee Fourth District.

914 Watts Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.

"Responsibilities gravitate to the person who can shoulder them; power flows to the man who knows how."—*Elbert Hubbard*.

"Philosophy eavesdropped from a group of negroes.—They were discussing a sick white neighbor. Said one: "I don't think he's doin' so brief, but I don't wonder. His nurse ain't got a speck of cheer-up and sorter keeps him meekified. What a man needs in de miseries is a spunkin' up."

The Dental Assistant

A Monthly Publication

A Journal for Dental Assistants Devoted to Their Interests and Education

Monthly publication of the A.D.A.A. Journal for Dental Assistants Devoted to their Education and Interests and to the Efficient Conduct of Dental Offices. Publication of all statements, opinions, or data, is not to be considered as an endorsement of some by magazine or its publishers.

JULY-AUGUST, 1936

E D I T O R I A L D E P A R T M E N T

WHAT NEXT?

MANY suggestions, ideas, plans, newspaper clippings, etc., etc., come to your Editor's desk in the course of time; some are clever, some are constructive, some are fantastic, some are sad, some are joyful . . . all of them carry a message, though they cannot all be used. Among the clippings received recently, which will no doubt be interesting to all dental assistants, is the following, culled from the daily of a large city, and entitled: "GIRL SEEKING A JOB FINDS ANOTHER RACKET. The advertisement stated: "Apply at 9 A.M." But the girl knew enough to get there at 8.30. As she turned into the block, on which the given address was situated, she saw four girls ahead of her, going in the same direction. This also was no surprise, no matter how early she arrived to apply for a job, there were always people ahead of her, but plenty always came after her, too. The doctor's waiting room was well filled when the girl arrived, and very soon it was crowded and girls waiting in the hall. Fifty people at least, of all types, young and old, waiting for one job as office nurse to a dentist. At 9.30 the place looked like a department store on bargain day. A man then appeared from an inner room and looked over the gathered assembly. "To save time," he announced, "I'll pass out cards. Please put down your name, address and telephone number. Then I'll interview you as quickly as I can." Several girls started to depart at once. "Please don't go," called the man. "I'll see you all." Two of them waited, but the rest went on their way. "Just another racket," said the girl's neighbor. "This is the fourth one I've struck lately." "What do you mean?" asked the girl. "He must want someone; he wouldn't go to all this trouble otherwise." "Sure he wants some one but he doesn't want any office nurse. If he did, he'd choose about six or eight to interview and give the rest of us the gate.

Nobody with any sense would interview this mob for one girl. What he'll do is to get your name and address, and when he talks to you he'll tell you that he'll let you know when he makes up his mind. In a little while you'll get a letter offering you a selling job on commission, to sell some tooth paste or mouth wash or something like that. He figures on getting girls to sell a little of it to their friends and relatives. In about a month he'll advertise again. They know if they said it was a selling job on commission, nobody would come, but this way they get a whole gang and out of it a few probably try the work each time." The experienced girl left, after she had told the job hunter about this new method of getting sales girls. As predicted, the dentist told the job hunter he would make up his mind and let her know. In a week's time the offer came—it was to sell a rubber tooth brush to massage the gums."

Some little time ago, I received another clipping taken from a trade journal dealing with women's wear. This one told of a dentist who advertised for a substitute assistant while his regular one was on her vacation. The salary was very moderate, and after a few days in the office, the dentist asked the substitute if she had some dental work to be done, and if she did, he would be very glad to co-operate with her and let her pay for it in small installments, taken out of her salary each week. It so happened that she did need several fillings and a small piece of bridgework, so he proceeded to take care of them for her. In about three weeks, her work was finished, and a balance due on it of about \$15.00 (the amount of her salary). On Saturday evening, he said to her, "Miss Blank, I won't need you after to-day, and since you owe me \$15.00 for your dental work, I'll retain your week's wages." There was nothing Miss Blank could do; she had the work in her mouth, and he had her wages in his pocket. Later she found out that he had a new office girl about once a month, so she drew her own conclusions. So may we all.

J. A. S.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As we go to press, the 12th Annual Meeting of the A. D. A. A. is being held in San Francisco. Our first convention on the Pacific Coast. We will tell you all about it in our next issue.

We are very much in need of issues of the January-February 1936 number of our magazine. Any of our readers who are through with their copy, will confer a real favor by sending it to Ann Farher, Subs. Mgr., 6760 Stoney Island Ave., Chicago, Ill. Thanks.

"The greatest mistake you can make in life is to be continually fearing you will make one."—*Elbert Hubbard.*



QUESTION BOX

ETHEL WHITENTON

906 Exchange Building, Memphis, Tennessee.



Q. Can you tell me how to clean the engine belt so that it will not cause a smudge on the Doctor's operating coat sleeve?

—C. T.

A. Remove the engine belt from the engine and either wash with Ivory Soap and water, or sponge it off with Chloroform.

Q. How can stains be removed from the skin?

—L. H.

A. Acidulated alcohol is effective, if the stain is fresh; Labarraque's Solution or any other "Hypochlorite," if the stain has become fixed. If, in the latter case, a dilute acid is used following the hypochlorite, the action will be more prompt.

Q. Could you suggest some simple means of keeping up with supplies and re-ordering?

—E. M.

A. It has proven wise and economical in some offices to make a list of supplies used in one particular office. On same show individual and quantity prices. When the supply gets low make a note of it on your calendar or telephone pad and order with the idea of saving money for your doctor. It is remarkable the amount of money that can be saved by quantity buying. This ob-

tains for soap items, etc., as well as supplies for chair needs. Your local dental depot will gladly aid you in arranging such a price list, and it will simplify ordering.

Q. How can Mercurochrome be removed from clothing?

—G. D. S.

A. Mercurochrome can be removed from clothes with a lather of cold water and Life Buoy Soap. Put through several soakings. Chlorox will remove this stain from linens or cotton. It can also be removed by placing a blotter under the stain, saturating stain with acid alcohol, then rinsing well with clear water. (Acid alcohol can be mixed in the office by adding any acid to alcohol, such as two teaspoonfuls of Muriatic Acid to three ounces of alcohol.)

Did You Know—

That a splendid method of making the cotton stick to the applicator is to use a little collodion on applicator before applying the cotton? Another method, is to break the applicator in half and wrap the cotton on the broken end. One method applies where you use both ends of the applicator and the other when only one end is used.

We should have a great variety of material for this column. I would appreciate contributions from our readers, so as to make it interesting to all. Please co-operate, it will be appreciated.

E. M. W.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

ELIZABETH HAHN FLEISCHER, 14411 E. Jefferson, Detroit, Michigan.

ILLINOIS

Chicago D. A. Assn.

Meetings, Third Thursday of every month at 8:00 P. M.

Dinner, 6:30 P. M.

Place, Stevens Hotel.

Emily Keegan, Publ. Chm., 4010 Madison St.

MICHIGAN

Detroit D. A. Assn.

Meetings, July 1, 1936, 6:30 P. M.

Place, Steamer Tashmoo.

Dinner, On boat.

Meeting, August 9, 1936, 9:30 A. M.

Place, Stein Summer Home, Algonac, Mich. All day picnic.

Elizabeth Hahn Fleischer, Pres., 14411 E. Jefferson Ave.

NEBRASKA

Lincoln D. A. Assn.

Party, July 7, 1936.

Place, Betty Beaty's home, 823 So. 21st St.

Lawn Party, August 4, 1936.

Place, Mrs. Ruth Frey's home, 2660 Sewell Street.

Mildred Stevenson, Bd. Mem., 1246 Washington.

OHIO

Columbus D. A. Assn.

No meeting scheduled for July, 1936.

No meeting scheduled for August, 1936.

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh D. A. Assn.

Meeting, July 11, 1936, 2:00 P. M.

Place, The Willows—Swimming.

Meeting, August 18, 1936, 6:30 P. M.

Place, North Park—Moonlight Picnic.

Stellamae Cramer, Publ. Chm., 92 Brilliant Ave., Aspinwall, Pa.

TENNESSEE

Memphis D. A. Assn.

Meeting, July 21, 1936, 5:00 P. M.

Place, "Maywood."

Program, Picnic with swimming party.

Meeting, August 18, 1936, 5:00 P. M.

Place, Home of our past Pres. Elizabeth Robinson, now Mrs. H. R. Clark.

Program, Surprise Party.

Lucille Reed, Chm. Mem. Comm., 808 Exchange Bldg.

The affiliated societies will resume their activities in September. They are requested to send their items for publication to the Editor of this department, by August 10th, for the Sept.-Oct. issue which will give the meetings for September and October.

"No one is beat till he quits,
No one is through till he stops,
No matter how hard Failure hits,
No matter how often he drops,
A fellow's not down till he lies
In the dust and refuses to rise."

"THIS AND THAT"

By MARGARET M. CUMMICK, Jasonville, Ind.

Assured that further co-operation of organizations gains unlimited results and progress, the Southern California D. A. Societies have planned a Southern California D. A. A. They held a breakfast at the Lafayette Hotel in Long Beach, with Sonora Spencer as chairman, have drafted a Constitution and hope to have same approved at the National Convention in San Francisco. . . . The Long Beach D. A. A. have elected new officers and will install them in September. Hilda Neil was the Delegate to the A. D. A. A. meeting, several other members also attending. Mrs. Anita Coleman, retiring president, entertained with a party at her home. . . . The San Diego society planned a clever "nautical" installation of officers. Officers wore the coats and caps of Naval Officers, and as each new incumbent was installed, she took the uniform of the retiring officer. Table decorations carried out the nautical idea. Fourteen members were planning to attend the National Convention.

The D. A.'s of Tacoma, Wash., assured their delegate, Lois Weiler three square meals a day by giving a benefit dance to enlarge the Delegate Fund. Another event on their calendar was a picnic at Micky Sherman's place on American Lake, at which time a towel shower was given in honor of Ernie Weller, who had announced her wedding date. Following a suggestion from the 11th Annual A. D. A. A. Meeting at New Orleans, the Kansas City D. A. A. arranged their entire Educational and Social programs for the year. The social activities have included a slumber party, informal benefit bridge, and a picnic. . . . The St. Paul Dist. D. H. and D. A. A. held a very successful bridge party with a drawing on a Ten-dollar bill. Elizabeth Marzolf entertained with a supper party in honor of the delegates to Convention. . . . The Chicago D. A. Society gave a gala Style Show and Keno Party as a means of swelling the Delegate Fund. There were styles from 1840 to 1940. Shares were sold on a \$10.00 merchandise certificate redeemable in one of the leading department stores; this netted a goodly sum. . . . The Detroit girls have turned their meetings into social affairs for the summer months, following the completion of the Red Cross Class.

The Sioux City D. A.'s are continuing their courses in English, Letter-writing, etc., conducted by the National Business Institute. . . . The annual meeting of the Nebraska D. A. A. increased their roll with thirteen new members. Norma Edger won first Clinic prize with her demonstration of "Know Your Teeth". The Lincoln girls enjoyed a "Steak Fry" at Pioneer Park, and joined some Omaha girls and others, on a Week-End cabin party in Fremont. . . . The Wisconsin D. A. A. are hard at work with a membership drive and plans for the quarterly meeting to be held at Oshkosh. The Milwaukee girls are again "in the dough," having realized a profit of \$72.00 in disposing of a lovely afghan. The big event in the offing now is the picnic, to be held at Moose Lake.

Betty Robinson, president of the Memphis D. A. A., recently became the bride of Dr. Herbert R. Clark of Forrest City, Ark. The Memphis girls surprised her with a miscellaneous shower. It was planned as a business meeting at one of the offices. When it was time for the clinics, the table was relieved of its cover, disclosing the gifts. Refreshments followed. . . . Presence of three National officers, Louise Dismukes, Lucile Hodge and Mildred Thompson, at the Tennessee State Meeting was an added inspiration. . . . The Georgia girls are enjoying a bit of peace and quietude following

a most successful State Meeting. Macon captured the Clinic Trophy and Atlanta won the poster award. Clara Herndon was elected to go to San Francisco, and Marie Shaw and her husband also made the trip westward.

Much credit is due the Akron D. A. A. which has a 50 per cent membership increase over last year, and netted the sum of \$92.15 by selling shares in one of Uncle Sam's new \$10.00 bills. This helped defray expenses in giving a clinic on "Children's Dentistry" at the State Dental Convention at Cleveland. . . . The second birthday party of the Columbus D. A. Soc. was a huge success, with loads of favors and prizes and a Style Show by one of the Dept. stores, displaying uniforms and sport clothes. . . . The annual banquet of the Toledo D. A. A. and the installation of officers was held with Ruth Rogers, 10th Dist. Trustee, officiating. Plans were made for the big picnic with a Bicycle race.

The Tidewater D. A. A. of Norfolk, Va., at a recent meeting enjoyed a lecture by Dr. Raymond T. Miller, professor of Psychology and Sociology, to which the dentists were invited. A class in Parliamentary Law is being organized and a membership drive planned. For the summer months, a Beach Party, a trip through the Seashore State Park and a picnic supper will be held. To replenish the treasury, some lovely handmade handkerchiefs were sold, and each girl gives subscription bridge parties at her home. . . . The E. & E. Society of N. Y. in appreciation of the untiring efforts and service of Robina McMurdo presented her with an attractive traveling bag, which she included in her Convention luggage. During the N. Y. State meeting, the members visited the station where Fred Allen was broadcasting his regular Ipana program. A luncheon was served at Jack Dempsey's restaurant, after which the girls visited the Hayden Planetarium. Heavens!!! What a full evening.

The Pittsburgh D. A. A. presented their president, Barbara Barnes Burnheim, with a lovely silk quilt as a wedding gift. The annual dance was a great success and they were planning a swimming party and Moonlight Picnic. They report that the city is regaining its normal status after a bitter experience with the flood disaster. Kathleen Flinn is planning to spend her vacation in the hospital for an appendectomy. Send her a cheery card. . . . The Monmouth Co. D. A. A. recently held a card party at the Fair Haven Parish House as a means of helping defray delegate expenses. The lovely Needlepoint footstool donated by Clara B. Phillips was won by Alberta White. The girls entertained some of the State officers at their June meeting. . . . The Bergen Co. D. A. A. won the cup awarded annually by the N. J. State D. A. A. for the greatest increase in membership. The members attended the Fred Waring broadcasting program, and then had a lovely dinner.

At the Indiana State D. A. A. meeting the membership was increased some 30 per cent and a splendid clinic program was given. Helene Meyers, Louise Abel and Mary Connolly motored over from Cincinnati and gave the clinic which won the Trophy Cup at the N. O. meeting. A cup was awarded for the first time, donated by the Indiana Dental Association, and was won by Betty Henshaw with her clinic on "Child Patient Suggestions." The climax to the meeting was a luncheon and a trip through the Eli Lilly Pharm. Co. Ruth Morgan of Omaha, Neb., was visiting in Indianapolis at the time and was a most welcome visitor at the meeting. . . . Our Founder, Juliette A. Southard, was elected an Honorary Member of the Saskatchewan Dental Assistants Assn. of Canada, at their meeting held in Moose Jaw, in May. Their President is Miss Vivian Busby, 443 Main St. North, Moose Jaw, Sask., Canada. Drop her a note of friendly interest and good wishes. We know this Canadian co-worker will appreciate it.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

To give expression to the sense of loss coming to us since our last meeting in the passing from this mortal life of our dear friend and companion, Aloise Clement, we pause here today, not to grieve at her departure, but in solemn accord to give thanks that we had the privilege of knowing her, and having shared her companionship; and having known her to serve so well as the treasurer of the American Dental Assistants Association. Not one of us but feels the richer for contact with her spirit of friendliness and breadth of vision. To her family we tender our sympathy in their grief and loneliness, and the assurance of our appreciation of what her loss means to all who knew her.

Done at this, the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Tennessee State Dental Assistants Association in Memphis, Tennessee, May 5th, 1936, and ordered to be inscribed upon the records by a unanimous vote of the members.

ETHEL WHITENTON, *President*

GLADYS G. PINSON, *Secretary*

With feelings of deepest regret, the Nebraska State Dental Assistants Association records the passing of one of its most distinguished members, our beloved Aloise B. Clement, on November 27, 1935. We realize to the fullest extent, the many benefits our association has derived from her untiring efforts, because of the warm personal feeling inspired in our hearts by her kindly life; *Be it resolved*: That we inscribe upon our records this tribute to her memory, that future members may know and appreciate her splendid character, her many benevolent deeds, and the respect and esteem in which she was held. *Be it further resolved*, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to her family and our National magazine, "The Dental Assistant."

Respectfully submitted, May 20th, 1936.

MILDRED STEVENSON

OLIVE BUTLER

MARY HANEY, *Chairman*

An impressive Memorial Service to the memory of our beloved friend, member, and Treasurer, was held during the Annual Convention of the A. D. A. Assn., the affiliated societies have all held individual moments of loving tribute, at their annual meetings, and we regret that more space could not be devoted to the resolutions passed and the loving sentiments expressed by groups and individuals. WE ALL MISS HER, more than words can tell.

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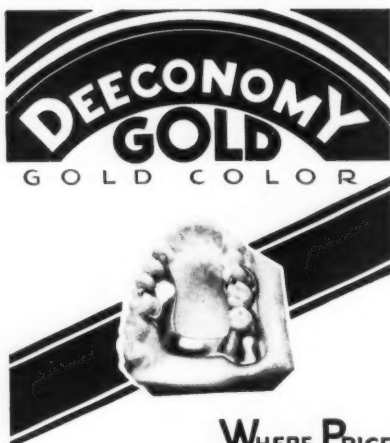
BOOK REVIEW

"A DICTIONARY OF DENTAL SCIENCE AND ART, comprising the words and phrases proper to dental literature, with their pronunciation and derivation," by William B. Dunning, D.D.S., F.A.C.D., and S. Ellsworth Davenport, Jr., D.M.D., F.A.C.D., published by P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Inc., 1012 Walnut St., Phila., Pa. 650 pages with 80 illustrations, some in color. Price, \$6.50 net.

This is a splendid, comprehensive and up to date technical dictionary of dental and oral terminology, and of the collateral sciences to dentistry. It can also serve as a reference book on the history and development of dentistry, through its portraiture of some of the prominent dentists of the past. It is a book of practical value which should be found in every dental office, and which the dental assistant can study to her advantage, for a greater knowledge of professional terms and other data of educational value. The authors and publishers have done an excellent piece of work, and we sincerely recommend it to the dentists and their assistants.

J. A. S.

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